



Metropolitan Wilmington
Urban League

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League

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About Us

- 115th Affiliate of the National Urban League Movement
 - Founded in 1999 - James H. Gilliam, Sr. , Renee DuJean, Mayor Jim Sills
- The mission of the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League (MWUL) is to empower people of color to achieve economic self-reliance, parity and civil rights.
 - Programmatic focus – New Castle County, DE, City of Wilmington
 - Advocacy impact – State of Delaware
- Urban Community Empowerment Initiative (UCEI)
 - Eliminating the achievement gap for minorities and increasing the graduation rate among African-Americans and Hispanic students;
 - Expanding minority employment and wealth building opportunities to achieve lasting economic stability; and
 - Promoting and improving the health status of people of color.
- In January, 2010, MWUL adopted its health equity vision statement: *The vision of the MWUL for health equity is a Delaware where all people benefit from comprehensive and preventative quality health care regardless of life stage or circumstance.*



Current Efforts

- ❖ MWUL participation on the Health Advisory Council – United Way HIC
- ❖ Promotion of Affordable Care Act Education , Choose Health Delaware
- ❖ Walgreen’s Way to Well Health Tour – October 3 – 7, 2013
- ❖ 4th Annual Men of Color Health, Wellness and Empowerment Summit (HMOC) – December 7, 2013
- ❖ Advocacy – Health equity in the State of Delaware
- ❖ Youth programs (150 – 170 students and families) – promotion of healthy lifestyles, working with several partners, including Planned Parenthood, DTCC, Food Bank and others.
- ❖ National Urban League Health Task Force – Project Wellness



Future Plans to Improve Health Equity

- ❖ Continue partnership with the State of Delaware
 - ❖ Work of Health Equity Consortium
- ❖ Continue to host Healthy Men of Color Conference, and expand connection with participants year-round
- ❖ Use MWUL website and www.healthymenofcolor.com to promote health information
- ❖ Continue to advocate for, and partner with various organizations to promote health equity in the Delaware



Challenges

- ❖ Funding for advocacy
- ❖ Defining and articulating the challenge with health equity
 - ❖ What does it look like?
 - ❖ Issues beyond access
- ❖ Maintaining a focus on ethnic and minority health equity.
- ❖ Numerous efforts to address the uninsured – underinsured – underserved



Achievements

- 2004 - Minority Health Disparity Conference: Stronger Together
- 2007 - Co-Convended Governor Minner's Task Force on Health Disparities with Lt. Governor John Carney
- 2009 - Stronger Together II Minority Health Disparities Summit
- 2009 - Produced the *Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League (MWUL) Blue Print for Action report*
- 2010 - 2011 - Convened a statewide Health Equity Consortium, and produced the 2011 *Delaware Health Equity Consortium (HEC) Strategic Plan 2011-2014* (developed by the MWUL at the request of DPH)
- 2010 - Facilitated discussion with NCCo School Superintendents and the Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families to improve access and connection to child mental health resources.
- 2012 - Partnering with the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health to chart a mobilization plan for a comprehensive and sustained approach to achieving health equity in Delaware
- 2010- present - Implementation of a successful, annual *Men of Color Health, Wellness and Empowerment Summit* to provide a forum for men and boys of color to develop heightened awareness of preventable health problems, encourage early detection and treatment of diseases. The event is free and open to the public, and has served over 600 men and boys the past three years.



Opportunities to Collaborate

- ❖ Partnership
- ❖ Advocate voice
 - ❖ MWUL website
 - ❖ Monthly electronic newsletters
 - ❖ E-blast list-serve
 - ❖ www.healthymenofcolor.com
- ❖ MWUL Youth Programs (serving 150 – 170 students and families annually)
- ❖ HMOC
- ❖ ACA Education